

Eng file

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION

ORDER NO. 88-05

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds that:

1. On September 11, 1975, Mr. O. B. Sholders, Sholders & Sanford, Inc., submitted a report of waste discharge (rwd) on behalf of Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School for the subsurface disposal of up to 0.0196 million gallons per day of treated wastewater. The rwd proposed installation of one 4500 gallon septic tank/leach line system for the junior and senior high school, one 1000 gallon septic tank/leach line system for the maintenance and district offices and one horizontal seepage pit for the portable photographic laboratory. Mr. Sholders reported that the discharge from the portable lab would be an intermittent discharge of less than 100 gallons per day of domestic waste and photographic chemicals.
2. On October 22, 1975, this Regional Board adopted Order No. 75-60, "Waste Discharge Requirements for Mountain Empire Unified School District, Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School Near the Unincorporated Community of Campo." Order No. 75-60 established requirements for the subsurface disposal of up to 0.0196 million gallons per day (MGD) of domestic wastes generated from a proposed junior and senior high school. Order No. 75-60 contained a prohibition against disposal of photographic chemicals to a subsurface disposal system.
3. As part of the FY 1987/88 waste discharge order update program, Order No. 75-60 has been reviewed by Regional Board staff in accordance with criteria established in the Administrative Procedures Manual adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. As a result of this review, it has been determined that no major changes are necessary in the requirements established by Order No. 75-60. This Order, which supersedes Order No. 75-60, consolidates and makes minor editorial changes in the findings, requirements and monitoring and reporting program of Order No. 75-60. The findings which follow are, for the most part, findings taken from Order No. 75-60 which outline the history of and basis

for the requirements established for the Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School.

4. By letter dated August 29, 1977, Mr. George Capatanos, District Superintendent, informed Regional Board staff that construction of the waste treatment facilities was complete and that the discharge commenced on August 26, 1977.
5. The Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School waste treatment and disposal facilities are located approximately two miles north and upstream of Morena Reservoir, a domestic water supply reservoir.
6. The water supply for Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School consists of two onsite wells. These wells are located upgradient of the subsurface disposal systems.
7. The capacity of the Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School is 1100 people. The school currently serves 700 students and faculty.
8. On January 6, 1988, the Executive Officer issued Notice of Violation N87-013, which notified Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School of its violation of Order No. 75-60 for the illicit discharge of photographic chemicals to the subsurface disposal system and for failure to submit a complete annual monitoring report for 1986. Notice of Violation N87-013 contains a compliance date of January 20, 1988.
9. The Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School is located on Buckman Springs Road, west of Interstate 8, in the SW1/4 of Section 32, T16S, R5E, SBB&M, adjacent to Cottonwood Creek, a tributary to Morena Reservoir, in the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit (11.60) of the Tia Juana Hydrographic Unit.
10. The "Comprehensive Water Quality Control Plan Report, San Diego Region (9)" (Basin Plan) was adopted by this Regional Board on March 17, 1975; approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on March 20, 1975; and updated by the Regional Board on February 27, 1978, March 23, 1981, January 23 and October 3, 1983, August 27, 1984, December 16, 1985 and March 24, 1986. The updates were subsequently approved by the State Board.
11. The Basin Plan established the following beneficial uses for the surface waters of the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit:

- a. Municipal and domestic supply
- b. Agricultural supply
- c. Industrial service supply
- d. Industrial process supply
- e. Non-contact water recreation
- f. Wildlife habitat

12. The Basin Plan established the following beneficial uses for the ground waters of the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit:

- a. Municipal and domestic supply
- b. Agricultural supply
- c. Ground water recharge\*

\*Potential beneficial use

13. The Basin Plan established the following water quality objectives for the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit:

Constituent	Concentrations not to be exceeded more than 10% of the time	
	Ground Water	Surface Water
Total Dissolved Solids	500 mg/L	500 mg/L
Chloride	250 mg/L	250 mg/L
Percent Sodium	60	60
Sulfate	250 mg/L	250 mg/L
Nitrate (as NO <sub>3</sub> )	45 mg/L	---
Nitrogen and Phosphorus	---	*
Iron	0.3 mg/L	0.3 mg/L
Manganese	0.05 mg/L	0.05 mg/L
Methylene Blue Active Substances	0.5 mg/L	0.5 mg/L
Boron	1.0 mg/L	1.0 mg/L
Odor	None	None
Turbidity	20 NTU	5 NTU
Color	20 Units	15 Units
Fluoride	1.0 mg/L	1.0 mg/L

Note: mg/L = milligrams per liter  
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

\*Concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus, by themselves or in combination with other nutrients, shall be maintained at levels below those which stimulate algae and emergent plant growth. Threshold total phosphorus (P) concentrations shall not exceed 0.05 mg/L in any stream at the point where it enters any standing body of water, nor 0.025 mg/L in any standing body of water. A desired goal in order to prevent public nuisances in streams and other flowing waters appears to be 0.1 mg/L total P. These values are not to be exceeded more than 10 percent of the time unless studies of the specific water body in question clearly show that water quality objective changes are permissible and changes are approved by the Regional Board. Analogous threshold values have not been set for nitrogen compounds; however, natural ratios of nitrogen to phosphorus are to be determined by surveillance and monitoring and upheld. If data are lacking, a ratio of N:P = 10:1 shall be used.

14. The Basin Plan contains the following prohibitions which are applicable to the discharge:

"Discharge of treated or untreated sewage or industrial wastewater, exclusive of cooling water or other waters which are chemically unchanged, to a watercourse, is prohibited except in cases where the quality of said discharge complies with the receiving body's water quality objectives.

"Discharging of treated or untreated sewage or industrial wastes in such manner or volume as to cause sustained surface flow or ponding on lands not owned or under the control of the discharger is prohibited except in cases defined in the previous paragraph and in cases in which the responsibility for all downstream adverse effects is accepted by the discharger.

"The dumping or deposition of oil, garbage, trash or other solid municipal, industrial or agricultural waste directly into inland waters or watercourses or adjacent to the watercourses in any manner which may permit its being washed into the watercourse is prohibited.

"Discharge of treated or untreated sewage or industrial wastes to a natural watercourse upstream of surface storage or diversion facilities used for municipal supply is prohibited."

15. This facility is an existing facility and as such is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, in accordance with Title 14, California Administrative Code, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301.

16. The Regional Board, in establishing the requirements contained herein, considered factors including, but not limited to the following:
  - a. Past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of water.
  - b. Environmental characteristics of the hydrographic unit under consideration, including the quality of water available thereto.
  - c. Water quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area.
  - d. Economic considerations.
  - e. The need for developing housing within the region.
  - f. Beneficial uses to be protected and the water quality objectives reasonable required for that purpose.
  - g. Other waste discharges.
  - h. The need to prevent nuisance.
17. The Regional Board has considered all water resource related environmental factors associated with the existing discharge of waste.
18. The Regional Board has notified the discharger and all known interested parties of the intent to update waste discharge requirements for the existing discharge.
19. The Regional Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the existing discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That Mountain Empire Unified School District (hereinafter discharger), in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. PROHIBITIONS

1. Discharges of wastes to lands which have not been specifically described to the Regional Board and for which valid waste discharge requirements are not in force are prohibited.
2. The disposal of wastewater in a manner that would result in ponding or surfacing of wastewater on lands beyond the disposal area, as described in the findings of this Order, is prohibited.

3. The discharge of wastewater shall not:

- (a) Cause the occurrence of coliform or pathogenic organisms in waters pumped from the basin;
- (b) Cause the occurrence of objectionable tastes and odors in water pumped from the basin;
- (c) Cause waters pumped from the basin to foam;
- (d) Cause the presence of toxic materials in waters pumped from the basin ;
- (e) Cause the pH of waters pumped from the basin to fall below 6.0 or rise above 9.0;
- (f) Cause this Regional Board's objectives for the ground or surface waters of the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit as established in the Basin Plan, to be exceeded;
- (g) Cause odors, septicity, mosquitos or other vectors, weed growth or other nuisance conditions in Cottonwood Creek or its tributaries;
- (h) Cause a surface flow recognizable as sewage in Cottonwood Creek or its tributaries; or
- (i) Cause a pollution, contamination or nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses of the ground or surface waters of the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit as established in the Basin Plan.

4. The discharge of a waste flow volume in excess of 0.0196 MGD is prohibited unless the discharger obtains revised waste discharge requirements for the proposed increased flowrate.

5. The discharge of waste in a manner other than as described in the findings of this Order is prohibited unless the discharger obtains revised waste discharge requirements that provide for the proposed change.

6. The discharge of wastewater to the surface of the Cottonwood Hydrographic Subunit is prohibited.

7. Discharges of wastes other than domestic sewage, such as water softener regeneration brines, chemical and photographic wastes, into the sewer system are prohibited.

8. Disposal of septic tank pumpings, oil, garbage, trash or other solid municipal, industrial, or agricultural wastes within the boundaries of the Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School is prohibited unless a site has been specifically approved by the Regional Board for that purpose. In the absence of such approval, all such wastes shall be hauled to an appropriate disposal site operating under waste discharge requirements established by this Regional Board.

B. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

1. All waste treatment and disposal facilities, including leach lines, shall be protected against 100-year peak stream flows as defined by the San Diego County flood control agency.
2. All waste treatment and disposal facilities, including leach lines, shall be protected against erosion, overland runoff, and other impacts resulting from a 100-year frequency 24-hour storm.
3. Collected screening, sludges, other solids removed from liquid wastes, and filter backwash shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer.
4. Wastewater shall be confined underground at all times and shall be disposed of in accordance with all applicable ordinances and regulations of the San Diego County health department.
5. Water softener regeneration brines, chemical and photographic wastes shall be hauled to a Class I disposal site or to a sewerage system approved by the Executive Officer.

C. PROVISIONS

1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of waste shall create a pollution, contamination or nuisance, as defined by Section 13050 of the California Water Code.
2. The discharger must comply with all conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance with this Order constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and is grounds for (a) enforcement action; (b) termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification of this Order; or (c)

denial of a Report of Waste Discharge in application for new or revised waste discharge requirements.

3. In an enforcement action, it shall not be a defense for the discharger that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with this Order. Upon reduction, loss, or failure of the treatment facility, the discharger shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with this Order, control production or all discharges, or both, until the facility is restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided. This provision applies, for example, when the primary source of power of the treatment facility fails, is reduced, or is lost.
4. The discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact on the environment resulting from noncompliance with this Order, including such accelerated or additional monitoring as may be necessary to determine the nature and impact of the noncompliance.
5. The discharger shall, at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with conditions of this Order.
6. This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause including, but not limited to, the following:
  - (a) Violation of any terms or conditions of this Order;
  - (b) Obtaining this Order by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
  - (c) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.

The filing of a request by the discharger for the modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination of this Order, or notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any condition of this Order.



7. This Order is not transferrable to any person except after notice to the Executive Officer. The Regional Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of this Order to change the name of the discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the California Water Code. The discharger shall submit notice of any proposed transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage to a new discharger as described under Reporting Requirement D.3.
8. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to persons or property, nor protect the discharger from its liability under federal, state or local laws, nor create a vested right for the discharger to continue the waste discharge.
9. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or authorized representatives upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
  - (a) Enter upon the discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this Order;
  - (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order;
  - (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order; and
  - (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring compliance with this Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location.
10. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School and shall be available to operating personnel at all times.

11. The requirements prescribed by this Order supersede the requirements prescribed by Order No. 75-60. Order No. 75-60 is hereby rescinded when this Order becomes effective.
12. The provisions of this Order are severable, and if any provision of this Order, or the application of any provision of this Order to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this Order, shall not be affected thereby.

D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. The discharger shall file a new report of waste discharge at least 120 days prior to the following:
  - (a) Significant change in the treatment or disposal method (e.g., change in the method of treatment which would significantly alter the nature of the waste).
  - (b) Change in the disposal area from that described in the findings of this Order.
  - (c) Increase in flow beyond that specified in this Order.
  - (d) Other circumstances which result in a material change in character, amount, or location of the waste discharge.
  - (e) Any planned change in the regulated facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with this Order.
2. The discharger shall furnish to the Executive Officer of this Regional Board, within a reasonable time, any information which the Executive Officer may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order. The discharger shall also furnish to the Executive Officer, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this Order.
3. The discharger must notify the Executive Officer, in writing at least 30 days in advance of any proposed transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage to a new discharger. The notice must include a written agreement between the existing and new discharger

containing a specific date for the transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage between the current discharger and the new discharger. This agreement shall include an acknowledgement that the existing discharger is liable for violations up to the transfer date and that the new discharger is liable from the transfer date on.

4. The discharger shall comply with the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 88-05. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 88-05.
5. Where the discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a Report of Waste Discharge or submitted incorrect information in a Report of Waste Discharge or in any report to the Regional Board, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.
6. The discharger shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any such information shall be provided orally to the Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; and, if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue, and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours. Any discharge of treated or untreated wastewater resulting from sewer line breaks, obstruction, surcharge or any other circumstances must be reported to the Executive Officer within 24 hours.
7. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Executive Officer shall be signed and certified as follows:
  - (a) The Report of Waste Discharge shall be signed as follows:
    - (1) For a corporation - by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice-president.

- (2) For a partnership or sole proprietorship - by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
  - (3) For a municipality, state, federal or other public agency - by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
- (b) All other reports required by this Order and other information required by the Executive Officer shall be signed by a person designated in paragraph (a) of this provision, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. An individual in a duly authorized representative only if:
- (1) The authorization is made in writing by a person described in paragraph (a) of this provision;
  - (2) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity; and
  - (3) The written authorization is submitted to the Executive Officer.
- (c) Any person signing a document under this Section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

8. The discharger shall submit reports required under this Order, or other information required by the Executive Officer, to:

Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Diego Region  
9771 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite B  
San Diego, California 92124-1331

E. NOTIFICATIONS

1. These requirements have not been officially reviewed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and are not issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.
2. The California Water Code provides that any person who intentionally or negligently violates any waste discharge requirements issued, reissued, or amended by this Regional Board is subject to a civil monetary remedy of up to 20 dollars per gallon of waste discharged or, if a cleanup and abatement order is issued, up to 15,000 dollars per day of violation or some combination thereof.
3. The California Water Code provides that any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports, as required under this Order, or falsifying any information provided in the monitoring reports is guilty of a misdemeanor.
4. This Order becomes effective on the date of adoption by the Regional Board.

*I, Ladin H. Delaney, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, on February 8, 1988.*

*Ladin H. Delaney*

---

LADIN H. DELANEY  
Executive Officer

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 88-05  
FOR THE  
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

A. MONITORING PROVISIONS

1. Monitoring must be conducted according to United States Environmental Protection Agency test procedures approved under Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 136, "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants Under the Clean Water Act" as amended, unless other test procedures have been specified in this Order.
2. All analyses shall be performed in a laboratory certified to perform such analyses by the California Department of Health Services or a laboratory approved by the Executive Officer.
3. Monitoring results must be reported on discharge monitoring report forms approved by the Executive Officer.
4. If the discharger monitors any pollutants more frequently than required by this Order, using test procedures approved under 40 (CFR), Part 136, or as specified in this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the discharger's monitoring report. The increased frequency of monitoring shall also be reported.
5. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of five years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding this discharge or when requested by the Regional Board Executive Officer.

6. Records of monitoring information shall include:
  - (a) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
  - (b) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
  - (c) The date(s) analyses were performed;
  - (d) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
  - (e) The analytical techniques or method used; and
  - (f) The results of such analyses.
7. All monitoring instruments and devices which are used by the discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary to ensure their continued accuracy.
8. The discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Reporting Requirement D.6 of this Order at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Reporting Requirement D.6.
9. The monitoring reports shall be signed by an authorized person as required by Reporting Requirement D.7.
10. A grab sample is an individual sample of at least 100 milliliters collected at a randomly selected time over a period not exceeding 15 minutes.

**B. SUPPLY WATER MONITORING**

The following shall constitute the supply water monitoring program:

Constituent	Unit	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Nitrate (as NO3)	mg/l	Grab	Annually

The monthly water consumption shall be reported annually.

C. GROUND WATER MONITORING

A representative sample of water from a well downgradient from the wastewater disposal area and approved by the Executive Officer shall be collected and analyzed. The method of sample collection and demonstration that the sample is representative of ground water conditions shall be included with each report.

Constituent	Unit	Sample Type	Sample Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Nitrate (as NO3)	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Boron	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Fluoride	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Silver	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Chromium	mg/L	Grab	Annually

D. CHEMICAL WASTE DISPOSAL LOG

A log of the type, quantity and manner of disposal of chemical wastes generated by the chemical laboratory shall be maintained and submitted annually.

E. REPORT SCHEDULE

Monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Executive Officer in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Reporting Frequency</u>	<u>Reporting Period</u>	<u>Report Due</u>
Annually	January-December	January 30

Ordered by

*Ladin H. Delaney*  
LADIN H. DELANEY  
Executive Officer  
February 8, 1988